sent an envoy to San Marino. That little old Spartan Republic has answered with a great deal of dignity and simplicity, and refused the offer of an increase of territory. Their chiefs say that a visit from a general of so great a nation lately enfranchised, to their little asylum of liberty, appears like a dream to them. If Bonaparte now turns his arms towards the Tyrol, we shall see whether the proverb says right, that *La fortune aime les plus jeunes;* for the Archduke Charles is the younger of the two.

Some journals name Barthélemy as likely to be the new director, but it is improbable. I was told yesterday by a deputy, whom I made acquaintance with at dinner, that he had wished to meet me, from the impression he had received by the account he had had of me in the Société of the Directory.

March 7th, 1797.

People are all on tiptoe here with the news of our bank having stopped payment—some glad, some sorry.[1] A député, *patriote,* told

I The report of the Bank of England having suspended
its payments was then circulated in Paris.